

(2) Formulates and develops regulations, procedures, directives, and bulletins concerning the execution of Agency rural economic development activities;

(3) In coordination with Agency personnel, provides guidance to borrowers on Agency rural economic development policies and procedures, and makes recommendations to the Administrator on borrowers' applications for rural economic development financial assistance;

(4) Provides economic and community development technical assistance to borrowers; and

(5) Advises Agency personnel on rural economic development matters.

(c) *Program Support Staff.* This staff has the following responsibilities:

(1) Prepares special and ongoing analyses regarding the operations of the Agency's loan, loan-guarantee, and grant programs, and supervises special projects as assigned;

(2) Develops and maintains Agency regulations and bulletins on pre-and post-loan policies and procedures, and provides advice and assistance to Agency staff and others regarding the achievement of program policies;

(3) Coordinates with corresponding program staffs regarding the implementation of program-wide policies;

(4) Coordinates joint program initiatives;

(5) Provides coordination and assistance on management development of RUS and borrower personnel, as assigned; and collaborates with borrowers' organizations and professional groups in management development;

(6) Develops and maintains a variety of loan fund control ledgers for electric and telephone program lending authorities; and

(7) Keeps abreast of external developments by state, local and Federal regulatory and legislative bodies relating to RUS programs.

(d) *Borrower Accounting Division.* This division ensures that accounting policies, systems and procedures with respect to borrowers' accounting operations meet regulatory, U.S. Department of Agriculture, General Accounting Office, Office of Management and Budget and Treasury Department requirements. The division:

(1) Provides recommendations and assistance in solving special program and administrative problems involving accounting interpretations and analysis, including the development and presentation of data to agency staff, regulatory bodies, and other agencies;

(2) Examines borrowers' records and operations and reviews expenditures of loan and other funds deposited in the RUS Construction Fund Account to determine that funds are expended in conformity with the RE Act. Reviews borrowers' plant accounting system and procedures to determine compliance with RUS regulations;

(3) Approves Certified Public Accountants to perform audits for borrowers and reviews their reports to determine conformance with acceptable accounting practices, procedures and standards;

(4) Develops proposed standards and procedures for Agency examination programs and evaluates adequacy and effectiveness of the review procedures; and

(5) Evaluates borrowers' accounting systems and procedures and recommends changes, as necessary, to provide for more complete and accurate reporting of borrowers' operations. Provides advice and assistance to borrowers concerning the installation and operation of accounting systems;

(e) *Area Offices.* The division is organized into four geographic area offices each of which has several field accountants located throughout the area.

§ 1700.7 Office of the Deputy Administrator—Management and Policy Support.

The Deputy Administrator—Management and Policy Support directs and coordinates the legislative, public information, administrative and budget activities of the Agency and participates with the Administrator and other officials in planning and formulating the programs, policies and other functions of the Agency. Activities are carried out by an Assistant Administrator—Management and others who report directly to the Deputy Administrator.